Lakhwar Vyasi Project (now in Uttarakhand) in 1976 at a cost of Rs. 140.97 crores (Price level January 1976). In January, 2000, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) considered the Kishau Project (now in Uttarakhand) proposal at an estimated cost of Rs.3455 crore (Price level -June 1996) but deferred approval pending establishment of techno-economic viability. It found the Renuka dam (in Himachal Pradesh) proposal at an estimated cost of Rs. 1224.64 crore (Price Level May 1997) acceptable, subject to compliance of certain conditions.

(b) The Central Government approved the scheme for implementation of National Projects which includes these three projects, on 7th February, 2008.

(c) In respect of Ranuka project, compliance in respect of sharing of cost, Environment & Forests clearance have not yet been received. The proposal of Lakhwar Vyasi had to be revised due to various reasons and the revised DPR received in March 2006 is under appraisal. The updated DPR of Kishau project is to prepared by Tehri Hydro Development Corporation Ltd.

(d) As projects of National importance, 90% of the cost of irrigation and drinking water component of the projects will be provided by Central Government as grant thereby providing an incentive to the concerned State Governments for early start of construction of these projects. Ministry of Environment & Forests has been requested by the Secretary (WR) for early clearance of Renuka project, which is in advanced stage for clearance, from Environment & Forests angle so that the proposal could be put up for the consideration of TAG. Several meetings have been held with the State Governments in the continuing endeavour to resolve issues. CWC has also been requested to assign top priority to technical appraisal of these projects. Upper Yamuna River Board in its meeting held on 11.02.2008 decided to assign priority to construct these projects while discussion on evolving the formula for sharing of costs and benefits would continue.

(e) These three storage projects are planned to store surface water and Central Ground Water Board is not concerned in the matter. However, Central Water Commission is involved in technical appraisal of these projects and is fully aware of the steps taken by the Govts. of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Haryana to implement these projects.

Meeting of officers between India and Nepal

†1694. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased of state:

(a) whether it is a fact that recently a high level meeting of officers of India and Nepal was held to consider the management of water resources;

(b) if so, the details of venue and time of this meeting alongwith the issues discussed in it;

(c) whether any action plan has been prepared to materialize the decisions of the meeting; and

(d) if so, the outlines of the action plan?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

(b) The 3rd meeting of India-Nepal Joint Committee on Water Resources (JCWR) headed by the Secretaries of Water Resources of India and Nepal was held at Kathmandu (Nepal) from 29.09.2008 to 01.10.2008. Issues discussed in the meeting are as under:

(i) Setting up of three tier bilateral mechanism consisting of Joint Ministerial Commission on Water Resources headed by the Ministers of Water Resources of India & Nepal, existing Joint Committee on Water Resources headed by Secretaries of Water Resources of India and Nepal and Joint Standing Technical Committee headed by Chairman, Ganga Flood Control Commission from India side;

(ii) Setting up of Pancheshwar Developement Authority,

(iii) Kosi afflux bund breach and related matters,

(iv) Issues related to Gandak Project,

(v) Pre-feasibility study of West Rapti Multipurpose (Naumure) Project, etc.

(c) and (d) Implementation of the decisions taken in the meeting will be reviewed in the next meeting of JCWR proposed in February, 2009.

Pending water dispute in Haryana

†1695. SHRI AJAY SINGH CHAUTALA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Satluj Yamuna Link (SLK) water dispute has been pending for a long time in Haryana;

(b) whether Haryana has to face water crisis due to this dispute; and

(c) if so, whether Government will consider to develop a continuous process to solve the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAY PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Sutlej Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal envisages conveying Haryana's share of surplus Ravi-Beas waters. However, Punjab Termination of Agreement Act, 2004 terminated all agreements related to Ravi-Beas waters. A Presidential Reference was filed in July 2004 seeking to know the constitutional validity of the Act in the Hon'ble Supreme Court and the Court is seized of the matter.

(b) As per the Government of Haryana, the authorized allocation of Haryana of Ravi-Beas waters as per 1981 interstate agreement is 3.50 Million Acre Feet (MAF), which was increased to 3.83 MAF by the Ravi & Beas Waters Tribunal and however, Haryana is being delivered only 1.62 MAF due to non-completion of SYL Canal.

(c) The resolution of the matter now depends on the outcome of the Presidential Reference.

Assistance provide to states for mapping water resources

1696. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to provide assistance to States to map water resources;

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi